



THE BAT-ROOST

This is a home built for bats—a reward for and inducement to the animals for the war on mosquitoes.

Using Bats to Rid the World of Mosquitoes

pests. It is a well known fact, for instance, that two out of every one hundred persons insured by American life insurance companies die of malaria. The greater number of deaths, however, occur among those who are never able to take out insurance. In India it is claimed that a trifle more than 1,000,000 people die annually from malaria.

The financial loss in this country due to malarial victims being unable to engage in daily occupations is estimated at \$300,000,000 yearly.

It is also claimed that 79,000,000 acres of rich land are unavailable in the United States on account of the prevalence of malaria directly due to the mosquito.

The big problem that confronted Dr. Campbell was how to rid the world of the mosquito and thereby eradicate the disease.

It was a peculiar incident that ultimately caused him to invent his "Malarial-Eradicating-Guano Producing Bat-Roost." A farmer with a large family moved into a neighborhood that he frequently visited in a professional capacity. Most of the farms in that vicinity were irrigated from wooden tanks holding large quantities of standing water, thus forming ideal places for the breeding of mosquitoes. The peculiar thing, however, was, that up to the advent of this new family, no one was annoyed by mosquitoes, despite the fact that practically everybody in that section slept out on porches that were unscreened.

The newcomers unconsciously started a lot of trouble. They noticed thousands of bats emerging nightly from an immense barn loft on their place. A bat battle was immediately and gleefully waged. Father, mother and all the children took part in it. They bragged with much gusto to having killed two wash-tubs full of the "pesky critters." It was only a short time thereafter until porch sleeping became unbearable, due to the arrival of apparently countless millions of mosquitoes. Most of the children and many of the grown-ups were soon down with a severe type of malarial fever, and many of them died before the malady could be checked.

This gave Dr. Campbell his clue. He quickly demonstrated to his complete satisfaction that a bat considered a mosquito as the best and daintiest kind of

food. He knew that he had made a discovery that would prove a great boon to humanity, providing he could evolve a satisfactory and sanitary scheme to persuade bats to make their home in mosquito infested localities. To solve this difficulty he constructed the type of roost shown in the accompanying illustration, which has proven a distinct success, and has been officially adopted by the city of San Antonio. The state legislature of Texas has also taken official cognizance of the success of the invention and has passed a law making it a misdemeanor for anyone to kill a bat in that state. A fine of from five to ten dollars is provided for each bat destroyed.

Dr. Campbell has invented a liquid, rich in bat odor, which he sprinkles freely about the interior of his roosts. This quickly induces the little winged animals to take up their residence there.

It was during his experimenting to prove that bats subsisted chiefly on mosquitoes that it dawned upon the inventor that the scheme would also prove to be of commercial value through the sale of the rich guano that would collect on the floor. According to Dr. Campbell, five hundred thousand bats will produce about twenty tons of guano annually, which he claims he has no trouble in selling at \$100 per ton. The principal ingredients in bat guano are ammonia and phosphoric acid. The fertilizer produced by these creatures is declared by experts to be second to none in the world for productivity qualities. Dr. Campbell proves this conclusively by using it in his home garden where he has grown in rich profusion marvelous plants, flowers and fruit. He has inaugurated a new method in the use of this fertilizer; discarding the old system of mixing the fertilizer with the earth, he dug holes about two feet in depth and after placing twenty pounds of guano in each one, covered them up. The flowers and other plants were then planted a short distance away. Small trenches were dug between the guano beds and the various plants, which were refilled with loose dirt. The tiny rootlets worked their way through the loose soil to the guano where they absorbed food as they needed it, instead of being obliged to take too much at one time, as would be the case under the old style of applying the fertilizer.

Profiteering in Sugar

(From a statement by Senator Arthur Capper)

JUST NOW the greatest get-rich-quick game in America is gouging in sugar. It's a mighty sweet and rich business for profit cormorants. The Equalization Board held the refiners down as to price. So in the name of Great Britain and France they bought up the Cuban sugar crop and exported it to those countries at a higher figure than the board would allow these men to sell it in the United States. And this government let them do it. As a result the increase in the price of sugar will add almost a billion dollars to the burdens now being borne by the American people.

"Although our exports of sugar to Great Britain alone have jumped 200 per cent, and we have in recent months shipped more than 300 million pounds of it to the United Kingdom, there are fairly well authenticated reports of vast hoards of sugar in New York and New Jersey. One recent deal reported is the sale through brokers of \$120,000 worth of sugar by a New York packing company to a Jersey City merchant for 20 1/4 cents a pound, the sugar to be sold at 22 cents retail.

"The hoarders are holding up Eastern wholesalers and retailers, who in turn must hold up the consumer. Sugar at 11 cents—the war price—is tremendously scarce in these localities. But sugar at 22 and 23 cents is as plentiful as ever. Under the circumstances, the least this government can do is to put an embargo on shipping any more sugar abroad while the price at home is almost prohibitive and profiteering in sugar is so disgraceful and general.

"In the United States each individual consumes 83 pounds of sugar a year. An increase of a cent a pound in the price means \$91,300,000 a year additional profit for the sugar barons.

"With big business doing its best to make this country a fertile soil for Bolshevik propagandists, little business is helpless to do much better. What tempts our great corporations to profiteer is easy money—legitimized graft. I earnestly urge as a remedy to meet this emergency an active prosecution of profiteers followed by their imprisonment, and a law requiring every manufacturer to print, engrave, weave or stamp on every article he produces, along with his trademark, the exact price he receives for it.

"I am convinced this would do much to put business and industry back on a legitimate profit basis. The profiteers are making it more and more difficult for the dealer, trying to do a square business and charge the customer a reasonable profit, to make a living. There is indisputable proof of widespread profiteering to be found in official records in Washington. It is unfortunate but true that as long as this orgy of profit-taking goes on the honest merchant will be under suspicion as well as the dishonest dealer. Many merchants who do not make a cent out of this unholy traffic undoubtedly are compelled to be a party to it or go out of business.

The Governor Who Carries a Lunch Pail



GOVERNOR J. B. A. ROBERTSON

The Oklahoma governor is shown here on his way to work.

GOVERNOR J. B. A. Robertson, of Oklahoma, is perhaps the only state executive in the United States who daily carries his tin lunch pail to the capitol like an ordinary factory hand in his workaday routine.

Governor Robertson is just as common as his lunch pail habit indicates. He tried to be comfortable in a silk hat on the day of his inauguration, but the dicer has been in a handbox ever since. "I don't believe a man ever feels comfortable balancing a section of stove pipe on his head," he said on the evening of his inauguration.

The Oklahoma state capitol is located three miles from the heart of the business district of Oklahoma City. The restaurant in the capitol is the only lunch room within miles. Governor Robertson says he can't take lunch in the capitol restaurant in peace because he sees a lot of fellows there who feel that they have to talk to him out of courtesy; he can't go downtown because it wastes too much time, and so citizens of Oklahoma City occasionally have the unusual pleasure of seeing the governor of the state walking to work with a cane in one hand and a dinner pail in the other.

"The lunch pail is a matter of efficiency with me," Governor Robertson said. "When noon comes I can lock my office door and shut everybody out. I am at lunch and I get through more official business during the forty-five minutes I browse through the lunch basket than in any other hour of the day."

The simplicity of Governor Robertson has won the friendship of the state of Oklahoma. He is no poseur. When the coal strike made things look black last fall, Governor Robertson was one of the first state executives to propose the opening of the mines with volunteer labor. He was the only governor to personally lead his volunteer expedition into the strip pits. The governor put on dungarees and handled a Number 6 shovel at Dawley for a full day. When the strike was settled, Governor Robertson's volunteer plan was producing nearly 100 cars of coal a day.

Since the governor's inauguration, a year ago, he has been faithful to the lunch pail. Whenever he is in Oklahoma City, the lunch pail goes to the capitol at 7:30 a. m. with the governor.

The international exchange situation is explained by an English financial authority: "It is like a few men sitting around a poker table. One of the players is the United States, and when he has acquired all the chips, the game naturally stops, unless he is willing to lend the rest chips to go on with. If he is not willing, as seems likely now, the other losers retire and play by themselves. The attitude of the United States toward foreign affairs is a mystery to me but it is a well-known fact here that our American cousins cannot see beyond the Statue of Liberty."